



March 22nd, 2016

Mid Michigan Area Cable Consortium
312 W. Michigan Street
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Re: Promoting the Availability of Diverse and Independent Sources of Video (DN 16-41)

I am writing on behalf of the Mid Michigan Area Cable Consortium who operates PEG channels in Mid-Michigan under the name the MAC TV Network. As a consortium we represent Arcada Township, Pine River Township, Union Township, the cities of Alma, Clare, Harrison, Ithaca, Mt. Pleasant, St. Louis and the village of Shepherd, all located within Clare, Gratiot or Isabella counties in Michigan. We are in charge of 2 public channels, 3 government channels and assist with 3 educational channels all on Charter Communications cable network.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide information for the FCC's inquiry.

In January of 2015, our Charter Communications contacts told us that we would be able to add our channels to the program guide for our local area. They have told us several times that they were in the process of setting this up. Charter has not answered or responded to any calls or e-mails regarding this or any other issue since October of 2015. At this point it has been more than a year since we were told that it was possible for our channels to be on the Program Guide and yet they are still not on the Program Guide. In October of 2015, a Charter representative contacted us seeking a letter of support to the FCC regarding their planned merger. Once we filed our support Charter no longer responds to us via mail, phone or e-mail.

MAC TV Network would also like to have the ability to transmit our signal to our viewers in High Definition(HD). Currently we are among the very few channels on Charter's network that are not transmitted in HD. In the year before Charter ceased communicating with us we had several discussions with our Charter contacts regarding the possibility of going HD. Their response was always that going to HD would never happen. Even when we offered to pay for the equipment

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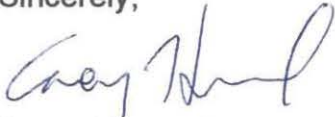
upgrade and asked for a rate similar to a local broadcast station transmitting in HD we were told that for PEG channels HD was not a possibility. We currently shoot, edit and produce all of our programming in HD and have to convert it to Standard Definition(SD) for Charter's network. We are prepared and willing to send our signal to Charter in HD so that it would be available to our viewers in HD but have been rebuffed by Charter at every step.

We have also had difficulty maintaining a high quality of signal for our channels on Charter's network. Our stations currently still modulate onto the coax network even though many other channels do not. This requires constant adjustments and is not as high of quality as newer methods. Currently, if an issue occurs with one of the channels or one of the channels go down, it usually take 2-3 weeks to reach a full solution; in the mean time, channels are not being viewed at a comparable quality to other channels on the Charter's network.

It is our belief that PEG channels should be available to our local viewers with the same quality of viewing and information as most other channels on the Charter network. This means having our channels schedules available on the Program Guide and also available in HD. We feel it is within the power of the FCC to mandate that PEG channels be allowed to have the same high quality viewing capability as other channels and also feel this will help local communities promote transparency and maintain a strong voice through media.

We appreciate the opportunity to enter this information into the record.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carey Hammel", with a stylized, flowing script.

Carey Hammel
Operations & Administration Director
Mid Michigan Area Cable Consortium